



Request for City Council Committee Action from the City Coordinators Office

Date: January 28, 2013

To: Honorable Elizabeth Glidden, Chair Regulatory, Energy & Environment Committee

Subject: Resolution creating Community Environmental Advisory Commission

Recommendation:

- a) Approve rescinding Resolution 1990R-142, creating the Minneapolis Environmental Commission, as amended on 8/10/1990, 1/24/1992, 7/1/1994, and 8/5/2005; and
- b) Approve passage of a new Resolution "Re-Establishing the Citizen Environmental Advisory Committee" as the "Minneapolis Community Environmental Advisory Commission" (CEAC).

Prepared by: Gayle Prest, Sustainability Director Approved by: Paul Aasen, City Coordinator Presenters in Committee: Gayle Prest, Sustainability Director

Background Information:

Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee has 18 members, each serving 2-year terms. The Committee has provided valuable service in developing and implementing the City's sustainability initiatives. The group originated under Resolution 90R-142 entitled, "Creating the Minneapolis Environmental Commission (MEC). The next major change came in Resolution 94R-177 where it was renamed as the Citizen Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) and reorganized to report more directly to the City's Environmental Coordinating Team "so that it may better fulfill its obligation to advise on the environmental consequences of City policies, programs and projects with local or global impacts."

There are currently 16 appointed representatives. The Mayor and the City Council each have the following 8 appointments:

- Two representatives from environmental advocacy groups (to be a specific member representing a specific environmental advocacy group)
- Two persons with demonstrated technical environmental expertise
- Two citizen members
- Two representatives from industries or companies having a major impact on the environment

In addition:

- Minneapolis School Board shall designate a representative who is responsible for coordinating the environmental curriculum in the Minneapolis Public Schools, and
- Hennepin County Board shall designate a representative with expertise in environmental matters.

Proposed Major Changes:

- Changing name to Community Environmental Advisory Commission. The group voted in December 2012 for the name change primarily because the word “community” rather than “citizen” more accurately reflects the diversity of the group.
- Adding Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board appointed representative. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has many similar sustainability interests especially in energy, waste and water and they have also been involved in other city advisory committees. The Superintendent supports this addition. Hennepin County, Minneapolis Schools and Minneapolis Parks appointed representatives would not necessarily need to be appointed by the elected body.
- Changing staffing requirements from Regulatory Services to the Sustainability Office.